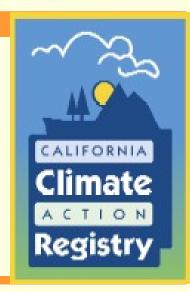
# CCAR Forest Protocols Entity and Project Accounting

July 21, 2008

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#### **Overview**



- Entity and Project Protocols
  - Descriptions
  - Purposes
  - Comparison of Requirements

Ongoing Discussions Related to Protocol Updates

## CCAR's Forest Protocols Entity and Project



- General Principles:
  - Accuracy, Consistency, Transparency,
     Relevance and Completeness
- Detailed accounting standards
  - Provides step-by-step guidance in measuring emissions and ensures that "a ton is a ton" across different organizations
- Two types: Entity and Project

### **Entity and Project Descriptions**



- A forest entity may be an individual, a corporation or other legally constituted body, a city or county or a state government agency that owns at least one hundred acres of trees within California. Focus of guidance is on commercial timberlands (modeled long term management plan).
- A project is a planned set of management activities that has a goal of reducing, avoiding, or sequestering emissions on any geographical subset of the entity.

### **Purposes of Accounting**



#### **Entity Accounting:**

- Provides broad emissions trends
- Useful in assessment of activity-shifting leakage

#### **Project Accounting:**

- Demonstrates coherent reduction independent of other emissions trends on project areas
- Are often undertaken for trading purposes
- Demand a higher level of rigor

## Protocols for Biological and Non-Biological Accounting



#### **Entity Accounting**

- General Reporting Protocol addresses non-biological emissions associated with harvesting equipment and transportation.
- Forest Sector Protocol addresses biological carbon fluxes associated with fluxes in forest carbon stocks

#### **Project Accounting**

 Forest Project Protocol addresses biological fluxes associated with project activities (reforestation, avoided conversion, forest management)

### Comparison of Requirements in Sector and Project Protocols

**Entity** 



**Project** 

Permanent plot monuments	
Field verification	
Sampling methodology	

Minimum diameter requirements

Description of biomass equations

Required carbon pools

## Comparison of Requirements in Sector and Project Protocols

Confidence Statistics for Estimates of Required Carbon Pools

#### **Entity**

the sampling error of the mean must be within 20% of the estimate of the mean at the 66% confidence interval for the estimate to be accepted by the Registry.

#### **Project**

the sampling error of the mean must be within 5% of the estimate of the mean at the 90% confidence interval for the estimate or deductions apply.

## Entity Reporting Requirements and Protocol Updates



#### **Discussion Items:**

- Entity reporting and verification is expensive and a barrier to project participation
- Entity protocols do not currently address noncommercial forests (oak woodlands, riparian forests off commercial forestlands, etc.)
- Assessment of activity-shifting leakage may not require entire entity – assessment area definition underway

# Entity Reporting Requirements as a State Monitoring Tool



If the goal is to address statewide inventories:

- 1. Sampling methodologies vary by ownership
- Costs are prohibitive (sampling and verification):
  - Very high for landowners with current inventory processes
  - Higher yet for landowners with no current inventory process





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